

ISSUES WARNING AGAINST COAL FAMINE

Criticizes Both Garfield and Baker and Demands Stabilized Measures

WOULD END U. S. CONTROL

Recommends Immediate Announcement of Prices to Prevail After First of April

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.

Predicting a coal shortage of the most disastrous character in the near future unless the fuel administration ceases "experimentation and guess-work," Senator Reed today submitted a statement of facts developed at the recent inquiry into the coal situation.

"Amid the chaos now existing in the coal business from the mine to the retail yard, one fact indisputable appears, namely, that uncertainty must at once give way to stability or we will in the near future be confronted by a coal shortage of the most disastrous character," Reed declared.

Reed submitted the following recommendations to avert this situation:

Ending of governmental interference with the coal business.

Immediate announcement of prices which will prevail after April 1, so that dealers may make contracts.

Giving of information to consumers, so they will know what coal will be available, and at what prices.

Reed sharply criticized the handling of the coal situation by the fuel administration. Quoting liberally from the testimony at the hearing, he showed that coal production for 1917 exceeded that for 1916 by 16 per cent for anthracite and by 8 per cent for bituminous.

CAUSES OF FAMINE

At the same time coal shipped abroad, including that for bunkering ships sailing from American ports, was less than that used in 1916 by more than 500,000 tons.

That a serious coal famine occurred, Reed declares, is due to the following causes:

Repudiation of the prices fixed last summer by the Lane committee.

The lapse of sixty days between repudiation of the Lane prices and the fixing of new prices by the Federal Trade Commission.

Constant assurances given the public of an abundant supply of coal, together with advice not to buy at current prices.

An unwise multiplicity of priority orders.

Forcing of coal into the Northwest while the needs of Middle West and eastern states were ignored.

Reed reviewed the work of Secretary of the Interior Lane and F. S. Peabody last June in fixing coal prices, the repudiation of these prices later by Secretary of War Baker and the disastrous effect on the confidence and the business of many coal dealers.

He then quoted as follows the conflict of statements made from time to time regarding the threatened coal shortage.

CRITICIZES BAKER ALSO

Fuel Administrator Garfield and Secretary Baker were criticized for telling the public not to buy when coal was plentiful and cheap.

Reed quoted the following many priority orders issued by Judge Lovett and others to show how they had added to the confusion and congestion on railroads, thus accentuating the coal shortage.

Coming to the sending of coal to the Northwest through lake ports, Reed said:

"If one-tenth of the energy expended in getting coal to Canada and the Northwest had been expended in decreasing bunkering coal, no ship would have been obliged to remain in port up here because of the lack of fuel.

The coal sent to the Northwest and to Canada in excess of the consumption for 1916 was 8,875,000 tons, or 244,424 tons more than enough to have bunkered all the ships having New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Hampton Roads for foreign ports during 1917.

He pointed out that though the Northwest is chiefly agricultural, the coal was shipped through Ohio, a great manufacturing State, with a coal shortage existing and forced into the Northwest.

"The hardships of the people of Ohio were aggravated on October 1," said Reed, "when Fuel Administrator Garfield said the coal moving by lake shipment to ports on Lakes Superior and Michigan was inadequate and ordered continuance of such shipments with priority in carriage."

"This Ohio famine, Reed said, was repeated all through the East and New England, where people had been told that though the coal was being rushed to the Northwest, they would get plenty.

JEWS OBSERVE FEAST OF PURIM TONIGHT

Religious Holiday Commemorates Deliverance of Israel From Bondage Under Haman

Today is marked on the Jewish religious calendar as the beginning of the Feast of Purim, or the Feast of Lots, as it is also known. The period officially begins at sunset tonight and ends Wednesday at midday.

The observance of this day is somewhat similar in character to that of the observance of Christmas by the Christians. This evening the Book of Esther from the Bible will be read and tomorrow morning in the original Hebrew from a manuscript parchment roll. The feast commemorates the escape of the Jewish people from Haman, a wicked man of the empire of Ahasuerus.

Haman was the grand vizier for King Ahasuerus during the fifth century B. C. as narrated in the Book of Esther, and sought the destruction of the Jewish people. The victory of the Jews over this seeming persecutor is commemorated in the Feast of Purim, which is religiously observed every year in the homes of the Orthodox Jews.

But the observance of the day is not confined to religious ceremonies alone. It is one of the festive days for the Jewish people and there are many gay parties, magnificence and enjoyable celebrations permitted on this occasion.

LEAVES BABY IN SALOON

Woman Places Child on Floor and Disappears

A woman about forty years old walked into the side entrance of the saloon of William Salomon, at 17th and Locust streets, this afternoon and as the bartender came forward to serve her she suddenly disappeared.

The bartender looked about him and as he started to go back to the bar again stumbled over an object lying on the floor. It was a two-month-old baby, dressed all in white. The woman was nowhere to be seen.

The bartender called Policeman Wheeler of the Fifth District, who took the baby to the station house, where he now is in the charge of the matron, Mrs. Mary Matthews. Police are looking for the woman, who is described as wearing a black coat and hat.

WANKENBURG TO GET \$39,000

Mayor's Claim for Damages Against City Allowed by Court

James Ferguson and Davis, in Court today, returned a verdict today against the city of Wankenburg, with interest from the date of the damage for the sum of \$39,000.

The court found in favor of the plaintiff, who is described as a merchant, who had been damaged by the city's failure to maintain a proper drainage system for the town.

WIFE WANTS HUSBAND DRAFTED



Although Samuel Hill, of Gloucester, N. J., by order of the court contributes to the support of his wife and their two children, from whom he is separated, Mrs. Hill has written to the county draft board and caused her husband to be placed in the first class in the next draft.

SHORTER HOURS, LARGER PAY FOR JERSEY SHIPMEN

Pennsylvania and New Jersey Companies Put New Schedule Into Effect—5000 Men Benefit

The Pennsylvania and New Jersey Shipbuilding Companies, Gloucester City, today put into effect the new schedule of working hours as fixed by the government. More than 5000 workmen are affected.

Under the new schedule the men began work this morning at 7:30. The day ends at 5:15, with forty-five minutes for luncheon at noon. They will stop work on Saturdays at 11:30 o'clock.

This will make a working week of forty-four hours. Under the old system the shipyard workers made forty-eight hours per week and now they will receive under the revised schedule more money than they received for the longer hours. Under the new schedule the shipyards can work the men two hours overtime if they desire, but they must be paid time and half time for the overtime.

It is the intention of both of the Gloucester yards to work the two hours overtime in order to rush the work on the ships. A night crew is also now employed and begins work at 6:30 and works until 5 o'clock in the morning, with forty-five minutes for luncheon at midnight.

WAR FINANCE BILL CALLED CAPITALISTIC

Senator Hollis Denounces Administration Measure Designed to Aid Business

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—Denouncing the administration war finance corporation bill as "a capitalistic measure," Senator Henry P. Hollis, of New Hampshire, Democrat, today vigorously condemned the Government's war taxation program as laid down in the \$2,000,000,000 revenue law.

"We were told last summer not to have high income taxes to the extent that lists might have capital for business purposes," said Senator Hollis. "So we have high taxes and large borrowings. The result is we are now asked to finance private business because capitalists have no money for private business."

"This bill," he continued, "transfers money control from Wall street to Fifteenth street and Pennsylvania avenue; from Morgan, Kuhn, Loeb & Co., and Kidder, Peabody & Co. to the United States war bank. I welcome the transfer, but I do not want any one financially tied to Wall street on the board of directors."

STATE SHOE DEALERS MEET

275 Attend Annual Convention at Reading

READING, Pa., Feb. 25.—The annual convention of the Pennsylvania Retail Shoe Dealers opened at the Hotel Berks here today with a large attendance. Discussions of the first day's session were confined to store methods and systems. Addresses were made at this afternoon's session on "How the Retailer Can Help Win the War," by John Kelly, of Harrisburg, and "What the Bank Means to the Retailer," by Albert J. Schmidt, of Pittsburgh. Mr. Kelly, president of the Retailers' Association, spoke on "The Pleasures of the Shoe Dealer," while J. H. Stone, editor of the Shoe Retailer, gave talk.

Mr. Anderson, an editor of Boston, and E. N. Hays, publisher of a shoe magazine, of Philadelphia, gave short talks.

The officers of the State organization, beside President A. A. Lazarus, of Pittsburgh, are: H. Smith, of Harrisburg, secretary; Milton Harper, of Philadelphia, first vice president; and Christopher Lendenbuhl, of Philadelphia, second vice president.

PACKER WANTS EXEMPTION

Nelson Morris, 26 and Unmarried, Seeks to Avoid Service

CHICAGO, Feb. 25.—Nelson Morris, chairman of the board of Morris & Co., packers, twenty-six years old and unmarried, has made application for exemption or deferred classification of Appeal Board No. 1.

No information as to his grounds was obtainable from the board. Mr. Morris declined to discuss the matter.

DELAYS APPOINTMENT

TRENTON, Feb. 25.—In approving the bill providing for two additional public utility commissioners, Governor Edge today said that he had decided not to name the second man authorized under the act, unless the business of the commission would demonstrate its necessity.

"It has been the policy of the State," said the Governor, "to add from time to time circuit court judges and other officials of a similar character, as the business seemed to warrant, and perhaps one additional commissioner will be sufficient to meet present or near future requirements."

Webb Bill Agreed Upon

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—Disagreements between House and Senate on the Webb bill, to permit American exporters to combine for foreign trade, have been straightened out and the bill soon will go to President Wilson for his approval. He recommended its passage as a war measure.

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State Senate Adopts Loyalty Resolution Condemning Senator by Vote of 26 to 3

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The Wisconsin State Senate has passed its loyalty resolution, including an amendment condemning Senator La Follette for his attitude toward the war, by a vote of 26 to 3.

The resolution, which is an amendment to the loyalty resolution of the Republican caucus, reads:

"The people of the State of Wisconsin always have stood and always will stand squarely behind the present war to a successful end. We condemn Senator Robert M. La Follette and all others who have failed to see the rightness of our nation's cause and have failed to support our Government in matters vital to the winning of the war. And we denounce any attitude or utterance of theirs which has tended to incite sedition among the people of our country and to injure in the conduct of the war the free peoples of the earth.

La Follette's attitude toward the President's war-winning program was likened to Judas's attitude to Christ by State Senator J. Henry Bennett.

Senator F. H. Hanson, who followed Bennett, called La Follette a traitor and read into the legislative records a certified copy of La Follette's St. Paul speech.

Wittler opened the assault which comes in answer to Senator Huber's "indication" of the United States Senator Saturday. Bennett followed, then came Hanson.

"I consider the gentleman defended on Saturday (La Follette) a traitor, and the English language and all other languages have been exhausted in the search for words adequate to denounce him," said Senator Hanson as he launched into the reading of the St. Paul speech, which "I desire to have made a matter of record in the Wisconsin Legislature."

As Senator Bennett concluded, he was handed a bouquet of red and white carnations tied with a blue ribbon. It bore a card with the inscription "From a loyal American."

"He is admired by every traitor to this country. He is enshrined in the hearts of every disloyal member of this community. Every man that is against the Government of the United States in the present world crisis regards La Follette as a patron saint. His patriotism has been questioned everywhere," said Senator Bennett.

"Why? And yet Senator Huber says that La Follette sustained the President and supported the war. God save us from any more such sustenance and support. La Follette sustained the President in the same manner and to the same extent that Judas Iscariot sustained Christ; as Benedict Arnold sustained Lincoln; as Benedict Arnold sustained the American cause, and to a like degree will be condemned by history."

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ARE SHOWING

"BONTELL" JERSEY SUITS

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